(घ) आयकर की बकाया राशि की वसूली के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम०वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) 30.9.93 की स्थिति के अनुसार आयकर की वसूली योग्य बकाया मांग (निगम कर सहित) की कुल धनराशि 6997.26 करोड़ रुपये थी। न्यायालयों, आयकर अपील अधिकरण, समझौता आयोग द्वारा स्थगित मांगें, अदेय मांग और प्रदत्त परन्तु सत्यापन के लिये लंबित मांगें इसमें शामिल नहीं हैं।

(ख) 30.9.93 की स्थिति के अनुसार 7458 मामले ऐसे थे जिनमें मांग 10 लाख रुपये से अधिक की थी।

(ग) ऐसे व्यक्तियों के नामों की सूची काफी लम्बी होगी। अतः इसे तैयार करने में निहित समय और प्रयास प्राप्त किए जाने वाले उद्देश्यों के अनुरूप नहीं होंगे।

(घ) बकाया मांग में कमी करने के कार्य को उच्च प्राथमिकता दी जाती है और इसे कम करने हेतु उचित प्रशासनिक, कानूनी और अन्य प्रकार के उपाय किए जाते हैं। बड़े मामलों में, डोजियर रखे जाते हैं और स्थिति की नियमित रूप से पुनरीक्षा की जाती है। इन मामलों के शीघ्र निपटान के लिए संबंधित प्राधिकारियों से अनुरोध किया जाता है। जहां न्यायालयों द्वारा वसूली की कार्यवाहियों के लिए स्थगन आदेश दिया जाता है, वहां स्थगन आदेश रद्द कराने के लिए कदम उठाये जाते हैं। उचित मामलों में मांग की शीघ्र वसूली के लिए विभाग द्वारा सम्पत्ति की कुर्की और बिक्री करना, दण्ड लगाना आदि जैसे बाध्यकारी उपाय भी किए जाते हैं।

Controversy over contract for Printing of new currency notes

913. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a corporate war over India's prestigious global contract amounting to more than Rs. 1,000 crores for printing new currency notes, has reached boiling point;

(b) if so, the reasons for the tussle between the bidders to grab the RBI's New Note Printing Project;

(c) whether the project is already behind schedule if so, by the how many years and its impact on cost escalation every month with the appreciation of US Dollar; and

(d) how long will it take to settle this matter and award the contract in the best interests of the country even if necessary, by splitting it up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) there arc two tenders in the field for the supply of plant and equipment for the New Note Press Project of the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) The project is behind schedule by about 2 years. However, because of the competitive reductions by the two parties, there has been not only no cost escalation, but as actual reduction in the foreign exchange cost. Even the rupee cost of the plant and equipment is substantially lower.

(d) Keeping in view all the factors, a proposal for splitting the order for supply of plant and equipment between the two parties subject to fulfilment of certain conditions, is presently under consideration of RBI.

Relatives of Ministers in Foreign Banks

914. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1914 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1993 and state:

(a) the names of Ministers and Senior Civil Servants who have close relatives in the employment of foreign banks; the details thereof; and

(b) what measures arc under contemplation to prohibit appointments of this nature in foreign banks in view of the findings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee which enquired into irregularities in banking and securities transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee arc under examination.

Quality of News Broadcasts and Telecast in India

915. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the popularity of news telecast and broadcast by the Doordarshan and Akashvani respectively is less as compared to the International media;

(b) whether it is a fact that the public find the news telecasts by foreign T.V. net-works more credible than that of the Doordarshan and Akashwani;

(c) whether the Doordarshan is having its own network for news collection and news reports;

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken by Government in this direction; and

(e) if no action is proposed, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) There are some correspondents at 8 cities.

(d) The news gathering set up is being reorganised. However, as a general practice the news is taken form AIR, PTI and UNI.

(e) Does not arise.

Entry of Foreign Media through Fradulent Means

916. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Newspaper Employees Federation has, in Memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister, expressed its deep concern over the international conspiracy by foreign media to enter India through fradulent means for obtaining a trade mark for their "brand name" as if newspapers were a commodity; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Several writ petitions have since been filed seeking the Court's direction restraining Registrar of Trade Marks and Registrar of Newspapers for India from registering foreign newspapers. The matter is subjudice.

Use of English and Hindi words in Tamil Broadcasts

917. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that English and Hindi words are used in Tamil broadcasts of All India Radio; and

(b) the reasons for which Tamil words of Akhila India Vanozhi are not used in Tamil broadcasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present practice of using the name "All India Radio" from radio